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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/810,515	03/15/2001	Cheng Zhou	81560.925	6192
33438	7590	11/03/2006	EXAMINER VIG, NARESH	
HAMILTON & TERRILE, LLP P.O. BOX 203518 AUSTIN, TX 78720			ART UNIT 3629	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/810,515

Applicant(s)

ZHOU ET AL.

Examiner

Naresh Vig

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 13-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 13-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2006/0615,0802,0825,1013</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is in reference to response received 15 August 2006. In the response received, applicant has not provided the information is the support for claims 15 and 52 which will enable one of ordinary skill in the art will be able to use applicant's invention as claimed by the applicant. Claims 1-10 and 13-76 are pending for examination.

Response to Arguments

In response to applicant's argument that applicant's claimed invention is designed to generate a document from an obtained component(s) of a document template. The value of the relationship and the substance of the document component(s) determines the composition of the document. In conventional word processing technology a document template is not comprised of multiple components that can be selectively obtained as required by Claim 1. The conventional document template does not include multiple components that are, for example, assembled in accordance with certain relationships to form a new document.

However, applicant is arguing a limitation of selectively obtaining of multiple components. However, applicant has not positively claimed the argued limitation of selectively obtaining of multiple components.

In response to applicant's argument that the relationship for a conventional document template is a relationship between the document template and merged data. The data is not a component of the document template. The data is separate and originates from a completely different source, such as a database.

However, applicant is arguing the limitation that in the claimed invention data originates from the same source which is not a database, and, applicant has not positively claimed this argued limitation.

In response to applicant's argument that for example, Claim 66 specifically recites "at least one rule associated with the compensation component and at least one rule associated with the textual component in a document template, wherein the rules are executable by a configuration engine." Applicants are unaware of any word processing tool that uses a configuration engine in this manner.

However, applicant's claimed invention of claim 66 only includes plurality of rules, and, does not use the rules to generate the document as argued by the applicant.

In response to applicant's argument that Claims 15 and 52 do not recite "obtaining modeling information" or "creating at least one compensation component".

However, applicant is making an argument which is not cited by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1 – 10 and 13 – 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Verisoft, Inc. hereinafter known as ZipForm.

Regarding claims 1 and 35, ZipForm teaches computer system, program and method in a computer system for generating documents (internet connectivity feature gives users the opportunity to access forms revisions and software updates via the web [page 5]. ZipForm teaches:

obtaining at least one of a plurality of components from a document template (capability to convert preprinted form to electronic form) [page 8].

obtaining at least one relationship from said document template, said relationship defining an association between said plurality of components and a document to be generated (Form Grouping) [page 5];

generating said document according to said at least one relationship; providing said document to a user [page 5 – 7].

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Regarding claims 15 and 52, ZipForm teaches computer system, program and method in a computer system for generating documents (internet connectivity feature gives users the opportunity to access forms revisions and software updates via the web [page 5]. ZipForm teaches:

obtaining at least one compensation component from a document template wherein said at least one compensation component is associated with at least one product (business choice to elect contents of the document) [page 5 – 7];

obtaining at least one textual component from a document template, wherein said at least one textual component comprises textual elements (capability to convert preprinted form to electronic form) [page 8].

obtaining at least one relationship that defines an interrelationship between said at least one compensation component or said at least one textual component and a document to be generated (Form Grouping) [page 5];

generating said document associated with said product according to said at least one relationship [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 29 and 66, ZipForm teaches computer system, program and method in a computer system for enabling a user to define configurable documents (let ZipForm convert your preprinted real estate forms to electronic forms with Custom Forms Design Service, it is inherent that, and allows users to fill the forms) [page 5 – 8]. ZipForm teaches:

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presenting a modeling interface to a user (forms can be grouped, teaches document conversion service);

obtaining modeling information from said user via said modeling interface (pre-printed forms from customers);

generating at least one compensation plan from said modeling information (Business choice to elect content of the forms);

generating at least one compensation component by creating a relation between said at least one compensation plan and at least one product, said association representative of said at least one product said user wishes to distribute (business choice to elect the structure of the compensation, for example fixed commission, or, variable commission based upon the sale price etc.);

obtaining at least one textual element (form used for information purpose only, for example, Lead Based Booklet etc.)

generating at least one textual component comprising said at least one textual element by creating a relation between said at least one textual component and said at least one product (a contract may have additional addendums);

associating said at least one compensation component and said at least one textual component with a document template (design choice for contents of the document, for example, commission structure may be part of the contract, or, a business may elect put commission structure as an addendum to the contract).

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Regarding claims 2 and 36, ZipForm teaches configuration engine performs said generating said document [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 3 and 37, ZipForm teaches at least one of said plurality of components comprises a compensation component (business choice, ZipForm teaches to cater to Real Estate, and, it is inherent that Real Estate contracts have commissions as compensation to the real estate agent documented on the contracts).

Regarding claims 4, 17, 38 and 54, ZipForm teaches as responded to earlier in response to claim 3, ZipForm teaches commission associated with the sale of a product (business choice to elect how to pay commission).

Regarding claims 5, 18, 39 and 55, as responded to earlier in response to claim 4, ZipForm teaches monetary compensation to be distributed to a sales representative (business choice to elect how to pay commission).

Regarding claims 6, 19, 40 and 56, as responded to earlier in response to claim 3, ZipForm teaches compensation component is modeled using a commission model (business choice to elect how to pay commission, e.g, fixed commission, variable rate commission etc.).

Regarding claims 7 and 41, ZipForm teaches plurality of components comprises a textual component [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 8, 20, 42 and 57, ZipForm teaches textual component comprises pre-defined textual elements [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 9 and 43, ZipForm teaches pre-defined textual elements are generated by a third-party (business choice to elect to outsource creation of documents) [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 10, 21, 44 and 58, ZipForm teaches textual component is associated with a product (business choice to elect purpose of the document) [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 45 and 46, ZipForm teaches document comprises a contract [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 24, 47 and 61, ZipForm teaches plurality of components are defined as a standard component, required component, or optional component (design choice, form grouping, for example, along with the contract set of region specific addendums are added to the contract) [page 5 – 7].

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Regarding claims 73 – 74, 13 – 14, 25 – 28, 48 – 51, 32 – 34, 62 – 65 and 69 – 72, as responded to earlier in response to claims, ZipForm teaches

interrelationship comprises an excludes relation.

interrelationship comprises a requires relation.

interrelationship comprises an optional relation.

Regarding claims 16 and 53, ZipForm teaches configuration engine performs said generating said document associated with said product (field of use, ZipForm teaches customer can print contract, and it is inherent that contracts can have plurality of attached addendums) [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 22 and 59, ZipForm teaches document comprises a contract [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 23 and 60, ZipForm teaches textual components are defined by a first user (business choice to elect whether to product the document in-house or outsource the creation of documents)..

Regarding claims 30 and 67, as responded to earlier in response to claim 29, ZipForm teaches:

providing said document template to a configuration engine (Custom Form Design Service, conversion of pre-printed forms to electronic forms etc.) [page 8];

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processing of said document template at said configuration engine to generate a document (user can print contract) [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claims 31 and 68, as responded to earlier in response to claim 29, ZipForm teaches:

obtaining one or more relations associated with said at least one compensation component and said at least one textual component from said document template (business choice to elect compensation structure);

applying said one or more relations to generate a document (user can fill in the information to complete the form) [page 5 – 7];

providing said document (user can print the document) [page 5 – 7].

Regarding claim 75, ZipForm teaches capability for relationship to include relation (grouping of documents require to include relation).

Regarding claim 75, ZipForm teaches capability for relationship to exclude relation (all the forms available by ZipForm are not part of a group).

Conclusion

Applicant is required under 37 CFR '1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this office action.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

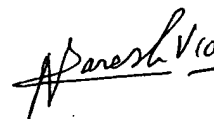
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naresh Vig whose telephone number is (571) 272-6810. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 6:00 (Wednesday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Naresh Vig
Examiner
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